September 2019 Chapter Meeting

National Federation of the Blind of California

San Fernando Valley Chapter

The meeting was called to order at 10 am and began with the Pledge of Allegiance and NFB Pledge.

Question of the month: What was the name of your first pet?

In attendance: 18 total

17 members and 1 guest

Malik - Treasurer, Jerry Morales, Julian Vargas, Jaymee Castillo, John Albarran, Nancy Albarran, Bill Grosjean, Jane Suh, Ron Hilliard, Karen Elo, Jo Anne Seaman, Joy Stigile, Keith Caballa, Candace Luther, Steve Lee, Ever Lee Herston, Juanita Herrera – Vice President, Robert Stigile – President

Announcements:

Candace made an announcement in behalf of Sheila that she would email everyone with your corresponding information because there were some phone numbers that had been changed or are disconnected. When you receive that email, please reply to her if your info is accurate or needed to be changed. Please make note that any information that you give to San Fernando Valley Chapter is not going anywhere else but just to the Roster.

Jo Anne will go on a trip in Montreal and will share it when she gets back.

Julian shared an information that if you live in an AT&T service area with your home phone from their service, they have a discounted internet service for anybody in California who receives SSI benefits. It’s $10 a month with no contract. For more info go to [www.att.com/access](http://www.att.com/access)

Ever Lee added an addendum to Julian’s announcement that AT&T is actually selling a lot of their towers to Sprint and TMobile. So, there are certain places you can not get AT&T. But Julian clarified that this offer is for residential areas who have home internet services.

Julian gave another information that in a few weeks the new version of IOS 13 will be released. He advised everyone that before you get this update when it comes out, to go to [www.applevis.com](http://www.applevis.com). He’s strongly recommend to read the site first before getting the update.

 Robert announced that Nebiyu Dingetu who’s been our Board Member, has decided to step down from our Chapter Board. He’ll still be back after his game in Las Vegas but as a general member. So, Robert asked and appointed Ron up until our next election. Robert added that starting next month, dues will be payable up till January. After the January meeting, if they are not paid, this means that you can not vote or run for office in February which will be our next election. So, please keep it in mind.

Next item, Robert still has the Deaf Blind T-shirts. $17 a piece, see him after the meeting if you would like to purchase. He also has the Carl’s Jr. books for $5 from the Guide Dog Division.

Secretary Report

Julian made a motion to approve the August minutes as submitted, seconded by Malik and the motion carries.

Treasury Report

Malik made a quick note about the money that was deposited that he doesn’t know where or what it is for. He’ll read the statement and will send it out in the email once he labeled the amount.

September Treasury:

Checking Account:

Beginning balance: $3,038.36

Deposits:

$180 candy purchase from Joe Otoole. $130 donations from or for the Shakey’s fundraising from Goldie Castro bowling friends. $240 unlabelled amount. $143.90 unlabled amount. $28 from 50/50 raffle.

Withdrawals:

$50 for PAC plan.

Ending: $ 3502.53

Savings Account:

Money from Best in Tech from 2 Gold Sponsors: AIRE and Sweetmansystems for $1050 total. After the fees, we got $109.25.

There’s also money from the small booths from LVI America $384.34.

Total in Savings: $2393.59.

Robert emphasized that when people give money, it is best to write down because you can’t always remember what it is for, especially after a month later. It’s hard to remember what the money is for.

Committees Report

Fundraising

Joy is inviting everyone for our Bob’s Big boy fundraiser on October 5th at 5 pm in Burbank. Che has the certificates if anyone would like to purchase. It’s $5 a piece.

Robert made a small addendum for Bob’s Big Boy, that if people are going to send the money through PayPal, to keep in mind that Paypal is taking out transaction fees. Now, Paypal is taking out either 1% or $10 everytime you transfer funds from Paypal account to a checking account. Karen suggested that there should be a free options and she’ll check it out later.

Joy announced another fundraiser and would like to know before she gets more information, if anybody’s interested with See’s Candy. It has to be ordered. In October they will be releasing little Christmas See’s Candy in a 6 piece per box. It’s $7.50 each. The Chapter buys them $3.75. Joy will order and pick it up in October. See more information in the list serve.

Sports and Activities

Juanita announced that we will have a guest speaker tentatively scheduled for next month. The guest speaker’s from Disability Rights California. They will talk about what they do and what services they offer. She’s also waiting for answer from the LA County Sheriff to see when we can do the self-defense class. Juanita would like to have a conference call to get ideas. And if you can not make it to the conference call, you can email her your suggestions.

Holiday Party

Joy booked the party at Ernie’s a Mexican restaurant on December14th Saturday at 5 pm. The price went up a little bit to $36.26. Details will be sent out in the list serve.

Adopt A Child Program

Malik and Joy had several phone calls. They are in the process of getting some applications going. We’ll relatively get a student in the next month or so. Joy was able to speak to Diane Christian and she is willing to help us in referring several people.

Best In Tech

Juanita announced that we have 2 Gold sponsors and a Platinum. Gold sponsors are AIRE At from Oregon and Sweetman Systems. Platinum is the Braille Institute. Small booth sign up is the LVI America, a low vision company which they do CCTV and video magnifiers. We’re working on getting MicroSoft and a few others. AIRA might consider to participate. Humanware too is still deciding. Orcam will be partnering with ATKrater. Del Macintosh had signed up. For an update, we have 2 small booths sponsors, 2 Gold and 1 Platinum.

Robert added that they had raised the prices up. For Gold sponsor is $1050 if they’re paying through Paypal and if they want to send a check, it will be $1000. The large booth is $600. Small booth is $400.

State Convention

Register is up. Early registration before October 15th, banquet is $60 and will go up to $70 after the deadline. Diabetes Action Network lunch is $30. Parents Workshop and luncheon is $30. Bus tramsportation is $25. Convention registration is $50.

The Chapter Board will give out grants for the members who will attend. Deadline to apply for the grants is October 15. Requirements for the grants are: you need to attend the General session and the Banquet. The Board will work on the amount, either $100 or $150.

In addition, we are going to do baskets. Baskets will be auctioned off at the convention. The funds from the auctions or the basket sales will go to the Affiliate to help fund other events, programs, activities and other expenses.

Suggestions for theme baskets was brought up. Juanita suggested Wine and Dine. Ron suggested the bake sale. So, we decided to do 2 baskets: 1. Wine & Dine, 2. Home baked items / Old fashion bake sale basket.

Juanita played #486 Presidential Release.

Ever Lee shared that one of the things that they discussed at their Board meeting was thePAC plan. They are encouraging as they, as part of the State Board, and as they go around and visit Chapters. They are encouraging Chapters to increase their PAC plan at the Chapter level. She said that our Chapter’s contribution is excellent and that she thinks that this Chapter is doing well. She encourage us to continue to do what we are doing which she is so proud of specially when the Adopt A Child Program for Christmas was mentioned She said that it’s something that should be noted and it should be sent to the President. Our State President wants to hear significant things like this and it would encourage other Chapters.

Robert explained the PAC plan which is the Pre-Authorize Contribution program. It’s a way that the National Federation of the Blind can receive money on a monthly basis from individuals, Chapters and Affiliates, to help pay the expenses that take place at the National Center. We do this for programs that we have such as Washington seminars, scholarships and more.

50/50 raffle $30. . Jo Anne won $16.50 but she decided to donate it to the Chapter.

Julian made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ron.

Recorded by Candace.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sheila Marie B.C.

Cell: 818-404-7646

Chapter Secretary and

Chair of Fundraising Committee

NFB.SFV